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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]
 TOPIC Brandenburg-Arado Airfield

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 23 September 1953

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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1. Air activity observed at Brandenburg-Arado airfield between 20 July and 17 August 1953 included:

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20 July. [REDACTED] some of the IL-10s had been provided with a new gray-green coat of paint. However, these IL-10s had retained their red propeller hubs and the red upper edges on their rudder assemblies.

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About six aircraft were seen in hangar No 4, the door of which was open.

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31 July and 1 through 3 August. No air activity was observed.

4 August. From 2 to 4 p.m., IL-10s made local training flights.

5 August. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., a total of 16 IL-10s practiced flying, including flying by formations of fives [REDACTED]

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6 August. Aircraft refuelled at 7 a.m. From 7:10 a.m. to 10 a.m., two Po-2s practiced flying. From 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., there was intermittent flying by seven IL-10s. [REDACTED]

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7 August. There was little flying by IL-10s.

8 August. From 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., IL-10s made local training flights.

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The aircraft flew individually or in formations of 2s, 3s, 5s, and 6s.

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9 August. There was no flying. [] 36 Il-10s parked on the eastern edge of the installation.

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10 August. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., some Il-10s and a Po-2 practiced individual flying. From 4 to 7:30 p.m., 4 or 5 Il-10s [] made local training flights. At 5 p.m., 10 Il-10s flying in formation crossed over the field at an altitude of about 300 meters and headed northwest.

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11 August. At 7:40 a.m., a formation of seven Il-10s crossed over the airfield and headed southeast. Throughout the day after 8:30 a.m., there was intermittent flying by Il-10s.

12 August. At 6:40 a.m., an Il-10 took off and headed northeast. From 8:20 a.m. to 2 p.m., Il-10s practiced local flying. In the afternoon, source heard the noise of running engines from a hangar on the eastern border of the installation. [] several aircraft were parked in this hangar. From 7:30 p.m. to 4 a.m., Po-2s made 30-minute flights. During this time, two searchlights mounted on trucks were posted on the southern edge of the field. The searchlights were in operation when the Po-2s took off or landed.

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13 August. From 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Il-10s made local training flights. At 9 p.m., Po-2s were observed aloft.

14 August. At 7:05 a.m., an Il-10 took off and headed northeast. Except for this there was no other flying. At 5 p.m., cables were laid out from a truck for the airfield lighting facilities. Two trucks mounting searchlights proceeded to the eastern border of the field. At 7:10 p.m., an Il-10 and a Po-2 took off. However, there was no night flying conducted.

15 August. From 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., there was intermittent flying by Il-10s.

16 August. In the early morning hours, three Il-10s took off and headed northwest. There was no other flying. [] 34 Il-10s on the eastern edge of the field.

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17 August. Until 4 p.m., a Po-2 made local training flights.

2. Air activity observed at the field between 31 July and 20 August included:

31 July and 1 August. There was no air activity. [] 32 Il-10s at the field. An Il-10s was seen in hangar No 3.

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6 August. From noon until 2 p.m., there was no flying. [] 28 Il-10s [] parked on the northern edge of the field.

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8 August. From 7:45 a.m., there was air activity by 24 Il-10s.

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Weather was partly cloudy. Formations of 2 to 6 aircraft were seen. Formations of 3 to 6 aircraft practiced low-level attacks. The aircraft sideslipped individually, the second aircraft would attack only after the first aircraft had pulled out of its dive. Low-level attacks were also practiced by groups of 2s, the second aircraft being staggered, one wing span to the right and rear. All aircraft involved in these practices were marked by red propeller hubs, (except for one) red upper edges on the rudder assemblies and a white-bordered Soviet star both on the rudder assembly and on the fuselage.

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During this air activity, [redacted] six tank trucks, a command truck, a radio truck, a fire truck, an ambulance and 3 or 4 other trucks on the southern edge of the field. Flying was discontinued at about 2 p.m.

10 August. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., [redacted] 36 Il-10s at the field. Two Il-10s flew a circle over the field and subsequently practiced low-level attacks.

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11 August. From 8:30 to 11:45 a.m., Po-2s made local training flights. The pilots of these Po-2s appeared to be rather inexperienced. After 1 p.m., 14 Il-10s practiced low-level attacks on the field. Flying was discontinued at about 6 p.m.

12 August. After 7:30 p.m., Po-2s made individual local training flights. Air activity continued until after mid-Night. The radio installations on top of buildings at the Artillerie Kaserne and Flak Kaserne were lighted.

14 August. From 9 a.m. until noon, there was no flying although the weather was fair. [redacted] 36 Il-10s at the field.

17 August. From 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., parachuting was practiced from a transport aircraft [redacted] From 3 to 10 parachutists would jump on each approach at an altitude of about 350 meters.

20 August. Il-10s practiced low-level attacks.

24 August. Source counted 36 Il-10s at the field.¹

3. After about mid-July, [redacted] a PKV-45 DF station west of the field. About 200 meters south of this installation was a van-like truck with a radio mast by its side. On 14 August, [redacted] air force truck [redacted] entering the field.

4. Between 5:30 and 7 p.m. on 17 August, [redacted] 6 groups of 8 parachutists each jump from an aircraft over the field.

1. Comment. Brandenburg-Arado airfield is still occupied by a ground attack regiment equipped with about 36 Il-10s [redacted] Training activity includes training flights by old crew members and the training of new pilots.

2. Comment. It is believed that these jumps were routine practices held by the personnel of the ground attack regiment.

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